

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated February 2, 2005, the Examiner states that the application is allowed except that the Examiner request a copy of the German Search Report for DE 103 02 984 (DE '984), i.e., the foreign priority document of the present application. Attached hereto is a Notice of Allowance (Erteilungsbeschuß) in DE '984. This was the only action that issued during the prosecution of DE '984. There were no other Office Actions. Some minor corrections were made by hand to the German claims as shown in the listing of claims attached to the Notice of Allowance. The prior art listed on the cover page was prepared by the German Patent Office but was not cited during prosecution.

An examination was not yet started as of March 31, 2005 in the corresponding European patent application. The European search report is of record in the present application as indicated by the Examiner.

The above remarks and attached Notice of Allowance are deemed to satisfy the Examiner's request. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,  
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